

# Antonis Maronikolakis, PhD Student

[github](#)[email](#)[linkedin](#)[website](#)[scholar](#)

## 🏛 Education

MSc Speech and Language Processing - First Honours (1:1)

September 2018 - September 2019

University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK

Thesis: Text Generation for News Headlines

BSc Computer Science - 8.4/10.0 (Upper 2:1)

October 2014 - June 2018

University of Piraeus, Athens, Greece

Thesis: Approximation and Heuristic Algorithms for Ridesharing

## 🔧 Technologies

*Libraries:* HuggingFace, Sklearn, Pandas, Keras, NLTK, PyTorch

*Tools:* LaTeX, VS Code, Bash, Git

## 🗣 Research Interests

hate speech, social nlp, dataset curation, data ethics, multilinguality

## 🎓 PhD Student

- Supervised by *Hinrich Schütze*, *Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München* January 2020 - current

- Currently working on hate speech analysis in a multi-disciplinary project, [AI4Dignity](#), to tackle hate speech against marginalized communities around the world, in an effort that involves the curation and analysis of hateful data.
- Leading side and student projects, publishing two workshop papers in the field of generated text analysis and multi-domain pre-training.
- Previously investigated multilinguality in BERT, examining the effect of tokenization compatibility on multilinguality and showing that BERT cannot align characters across languages.

## 📖 Publications

Wine is Not v i n. – On the Compatibility of Tokenizations Across Languages ([Camera-Ready](#)). Antonis Maronikolakis, Philipp Dufter and Hinrich Schütze. 2021. In Proceedings of the 2021 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing.

BERT Cannot Align Characters ([Camera-Ready](#)). Antonis Maronikolakis, Philipp Dufter and Hinrich Schütze. 2021. In Proceedings of the The Second Workshop on Insights from Negative Results, EMNLP.

[Artificial Intelligence, Extreme Speech, and the Challenges of Online Content Moderation](#). Sahana Udupa, Elonnai Hickok, Antonis Maronikolakis, Hinrich Schuetze, Laura Csuka, Axel Wisiosek, Leah Nann. 2021. AI4Dignity Project. EU Commission Policy Brief.

[Identifying Automatically Generated Headlines Using Transformers](#). Antonis Maronikolakis, Hinrich Schütze, and Mark Stevenson. 2021. In Proceedings of the Fourth Workshop on NLP for Internet Freedom: Censorship, Disinformation, and Propaganda, pages 1–6, Online. Association for Computational Linguistics.

[Multidomain Pretrained Language Models for Green NLP](#). Antonis Maronikolakis and Hinrich Schütze. 2021. In Proceedings of the Second Workshop on Domain Adaptation for NLP, pages 1–8, Kyiv, Ukraine. Association for Computational Linguistics.

[Analyzing Political Parody in Social Media](#). Antonis Maronikolakis, Danae Sánchez Villegas, Daniel Preotiuc-Pietro, and Nikolaos Aletras. 2020. In Proceedings of the 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics.

## ⌘ Professional Experience

Head NLP Researcher for [AI4Dignity](#)

- *Extreme Speech Analysis for Marginalized Communities*

November 2020 - Current

- Providing guidance from an NLP perspective in a multi-disciplinary team of NLP researchers, Anthropologists and Fact-Checkers.
- Led data collection and annotation efforts culminating in a dataset of 20k examples and multiple label categories from a team of 13 annotators spanning 4 countries.
- Organized a two-day online Counterathon event where academics, NLP practitioners and fact-checkers sat down in teams to brainstorm ideas pertaining to extreme speech online.
- Gave two talks introducing our project as a keynote speaker at [MMHS](#) and opening as a speaker on our Counterathon event.

Speech Processing Researcher for VoiceBase Research Lab

- *Analyzed Variational Autoencoders and Phrase Detection methods*

November 2018 - August 2019

- As part of Dr. Thomas Hain's VoiceBase research lab, I was assisting researchers by exploring a novel Variational Autoencoder structure, alongside work on Phrase Detection and Extraction.
- Analyzed and ran experiments on the Factorized Hierarchical Variational Autoencoder [repository](#) and on various Phrase Detection algorithms.
- Set up and documented experiment configurations for [ESPN](#) and [DeepSpeech](#).

AI Programmer/Writer for Google Summer of Code

- *Mentored under Dr. Peter Norvig, working on AI algorithms*

June - September 2017

- Worked on the [Python repository](#) of Dr. Norvig's book, *Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach*.
- Implemented, evaluated and wrote on Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning algorithms and concepts, explaining how they work and providing examples students can work with.
- Collaborated with Dr. Norvig to polish pseudocode from the book.
- After the end of the project, I was given administrator rights to the repository.

## 🏆 Awards

- Scholarship for academic excellence - 2016-2017, 2017-2018
- Kaggle Machine Learning Competitions (2018) - Silver and Bronze Medals
- Microsoft Imagine Cup Competition (2015 and 2016) - National Finalist
- National Computer Science Competition 2014 - Finalist